

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OES-03 OFA-01 EB-07 DLOS-04 SAL-01

INT-05 /098 W

----- 118361

P R 040538Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5802

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 1601

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EFIS KS MR

SUBJ: ROK RELATIONS WITH MAURITANIA

REF: (A) NOUAKCHOTT 396, (B) STATE 48859

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF REF A WITH MOFA MID EAST AND AFRICA DEPUTY DIRECTOR KIM HAE-SON MARCH 2 AS SUGGESTED REF B. KIM SAID IN CONFIDENCE THAT ROK FISHING INTERESTS ARE NOW PAYING SUBSTANTIAL "COMMISSIONS" TO ABDULLAH OULD ISMAIL AND BRAHIM DHERATT IN RETURN FOR THEIR GOOD OFFICES IN PROTECTING ROK FISHING ACTIVITIES. KIM ADDED THAT THE ROKG DOES NOT ENTERTAIN ANY ILLUSIONS THAT MAURITANIA WOULD BE A FERTILE AREA IN WHICH TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICIAL ROKG PRESENCE AT THIS TIME. WHAT THE ROKG WOULD LIKE TO DO, HE SAID, IS SLOWLY IMPROVE ITS TRADE CONTACTS WITH MAURITANIA IN ORDER TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR A FUTURE RELATIONSHIP. AT PRESENT, ACCORDING TO KIM, ROK FISHING RIGHTS IN MAURITANIA ARE NOT REALLY PROFITABLE FOR THE KOREANS BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THE COMMISSIONS THEY HAVE TO PAY RELATIVE TO THE PROFITS THEY DERIVE. THE ROK IS  
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PREPARED TO CONTINUE THIS SITUATION FOR THE TIME BEING,

HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO KEEP THE DOOR OPEN FOR THE FUTURE.  
KIM ALSO SAID HE DID NOT SEE ANY PARTICULAR ADVANTAGE TO A  
ROK FISHING OFFICE IN NOUADHIBOU, SINCE THIS WOULD LIKELY  
COST ROK FISHING COMPANIES STILL MORE MONEY. HE DID,  
HOWEVER, TAKE NOTE OF THE IDEA, POSSIBLY FOR FUTURE  
REFERENCE.

2. KIM APPEARED TO BE FULLY AWARE OF THE STRENGTH OF THE  
NORTH KOREAN POSITION, AND WAS PROBABLY LOOKING FOR CON-  
FIRMATION FROM US OF INFORMATION HE HAD FROM OTHER  
SOURCES. IN OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY,  
MAURITANIA HAS NOT APPEARED TO BE VERY HIGH ON THE  
KOREAN LIST OF PLACES IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA WHICH  
OFFERED GOOD OPPORTUNITIES OR REWARDS FOR IMPROVING  
RELATIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, FISHING INDUSTRY, FISHING GROUNDS  
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**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1976  
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